

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re New Patent Application of)
Alexander HELLER et al.)
Application No. Not Yet Assigned) Attn: Applications
Filed: September 12, 2003) Branch
For: ROOF FOR A CONVERTIBLE VEHICLE)
INCLUDING LOCKING DEVICE) Date: September 12, 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

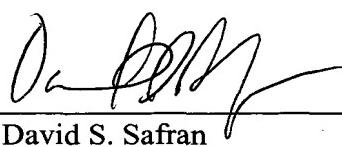
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | | |
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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Application Number | New Application | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Filing Date | September 12, 2003 | |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Alexander HELLER et al. | |
| | | | | Art Unit | | |
| | | | | Examiner Name | | |
| | | | | Attorney Docket Number | 003254-9 | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
| | | Number - Kind Code ² (<i>if known</i>) | | | | |
| | | US-5,944,375 | 08/31/1999 | Schenk et al. | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ (<i>if known</i>) | | | | |
| | | DE 196 34 511 C1 | 01/22/1998 | Schenk et al. | | Abstract |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | | | T ² |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.